REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Examiner's communication dated December 17, 2001 (Final Office Action), as well as the Examiner's communications dated April 4, 2002 (Advisory Action), April 19, 2002 (second Advisory Action and Interview Summary) and May 13, 2002 (third Advisory Action and Interview Summary).

On March 18, 2002, an Amendment was filed responsive to the Office Action dated December 17, 2001. The March 18th Amendment amended Claims 1 and 3, and the Examiner's communication of April 19th indicated that amended Claims 1 and 3 have been entered and that Claims 3 and 4 are allowed (see Boxes 4 and 8, respectively, of the April 19th Advisory Action).

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 are cancelled, without prejudice.

Claims 3 and 4 are now the only pending claims in this application. Accordingly, this application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Allowance of all pending claims, namely Claims 3 and 4, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference or personal interview will facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number indicated below. A prompt action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 15, 2002

DILWORTH & BARRESE, LLP 333 Earle Ovington Boulevard Uniondale, New York 11553

TEL: (516) 228-8484 FAX: (516) 228-8516 Paul J. Farrell

Registration No. 33,494 Attorney for Applicant(s)